

Statement from Queensland Racing Integrity Commissioner to 7.30.

The Queensland Racing Integrity Commission has responsibility for the welfare of animals currently involved in racing in Queensland.

The primary focus of the Commission is to safeguard the welfare of racing animals during their racing career.

The Commission advocates strongly for the welfare of all racing animals and invites the racing community and the public to report racing animal welfare concerns for investigation.

The Commission works closely with partners including the RSPCA to investigate reports we receive about the treatment of racehorses and Standardbreds whether they are currently racing or retired. This investigation includes immediate site visits by authorised officers or Stewards including a QRIC veterinarian and the issuing of directions or other necessary action.

The Commission's equine welfare program supports activities and organisations who work with retired equine athletes to retrain them for a career after racing.

The Commission's Racing Animal Welfare grants program funds multiple eligible projects up to \$10,000 that support the Commission's animal welfare objectives.

This program amplifies the work of the Commission and improves animal welfare outcomes to a greater extent than we could on our own maximising retired racing animal welfare efforts.

Racing Integrity Commission, Ross Barnett